

December 11, 2016

SUNDAY OF FOREFATHERS (ANCESTORS) OF CHRIST

Venerable Daniel the Stylite of Constantinople

Saint Daniel the Stylite was born in the village of Bethara, near the city of Samosata in Mesopotamia. His mother Martha was childless for a long while and in her prayers she vowed that if she had a child, she would dedicate him to the Lord. Her prayers were heard, and Martha soon gave birth to a son, who was without a name until he was five years of age.

The boy's parents desired that since he was born through the good-will of God, he should also receive his name from God. They took their son to a monastery located nearby and approached the igumen. The igumen gave orders to take down one of the service books, and unrolled it at random. He found the Prophet Daniel (December 17) mentioned in it. Thus did the boy receive his name. The parents asked that he might remain at the monastery, but the igumen would not accept him, since he was still only a small boy. At twelve years of age, saying nothing to anyone, the child left home for the monastery.

His parents were happy when they learned where their son was, and they went to the monastery. Seeing that he was still going about in his worldly clothes, they besought that the igumen should clothe him in the angelic garb. That Sunday the igumen fulfilled their request, but permitted them often to visit their son. The brethren of the monastery were astonished at the saint's ascetical efforts.

Once, Saint Simeon the Stylite (September 1), visited the monastery. He foretold to the young monk, that he too would undertake the feat of pillar-dwelling. Saint Daniel continued with his ascetic life in seclusion. When the place of a new exploit was revealed to him in a vision, he withdrew into the Thracian wilderness together with two disciples. They set up a pillar, upon which Saint Daniel dwelt for 33 years. People thronged to the pillar, the unfortunate and those who were sick, and all received help and healing from Saint Daniel. Byzantine emperors also sought the prayers of the holy ascetic. The most notable of the saint's predictions was about a great fire in Constantinople. Saint Daniel possessed also the gift of gracious words. He guided many onto the path of correcting their lives. The monk reposed in his eightieth year.

Text & icon from <https://oca.org/saints/lives/2016/12/11/103520-venerable-daniel-the-stylite-of-constantinople>

The disciples were called Christians first in Antioch (Acts 11:26)



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NEW! Office Hours:
Monday through Thursday 8:30 - 4:00

December 11, 2016

**SUNDAY OF FOREFATHERS
(ANCESTORS) OF CHRIST**

COMMEMORATIONS:

MONK-MARTYR BARSABAS, ABBOT OG ISHTAR AND
10 COMPANIONS IN PERSIA (342)

MARTYR ACEPSIUS AND AEITHALAS AT ARBELA IN
ASSYRIA (354)

VENERABLE DANIEL THE STYLITE
(CONSTANTINOPLE, 490)

MARTYR MIRAX OF EGYPT (640)

LUKE THE NEW STYLITE OF CHALCEDON (979)

NIKON "THE DRY" OF THE KIEV CAVES (1101)

VENERABLE LEONTIOS OF ACHAIA (1450)

ST. KUKSHA (VELICHKO), HIEROSCHEMAMONK OF
ODESSA (1964)

Tone 8

Eothinon 3

Matins Gospel: St. Mark 16:9-20

Epistle: Colossians 3:4-11

Liturgy Gospel: Luke 14:16-24

RESURRECTION TROPARION - Tone 8 - From the heights Thou didst descend, O Compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion. Thou art our Life and our Resurrection, O Lord. Glory to Thee!

TODAY: Coffee Hour, Sunday School, & Teens
Parish Council, 12:45 pm

SAINT PHILIP'S is a "Pan-Orthodox" parish of the Antiochian Archdiocese, serving Orthodox Christians of all backgrounds in the English language. If you are a newcomer to our community, please sign our guest book, and stay with us for the Coffee Hour today. AND, WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU AGAIN!

PLEASE NOTE: Holy Communion is only for practicing Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves through fasting, prayer, and recent confession, and who are dressed modestly and arrived on time for the Liturgy. All are welcome to kiss the Cross and receive Blessed Bread at the end of the Divine Liturgy.

THE ALTAR CANDLES are lighted today by the Habre family, in thanksgiving for blessings received (Carol's birthday - MANY YEARS!).

MANY THANKS to the family of Gabremariam Tsadik for sponsoring today's coffee hour in his memory (MEMORY ETERNAL!). EVERYONE is invited to stay for refreshments after the Divine Liturgy.

THIS WEEK'S GREETERS: Serge & Alex Kaminsky

THIS WEEK'S CLEANING TEAM: Celia-Marie Khouri & Sharon Yezdimir

THANK YOU to all who fulfill these ministries!

YOUR FLOWER OFFERINGS support the beautification of our church during this holy season. Thank you!

YOUR DONATION WITH A CHRISTMAS CARD TO THE ST PHILIP'S FAMILY supports missions, ministries, and monasteries. May God bless your generosity!

MANY THANKS TO HUFF & LAKJER FUNERAL HOME for once again sponsoring our liturgical icon calendars. If you haven't gotten one yet, pick one up from the round literature table in the great room.



Mark Your Calendar:

Nativity Services (Special Schedule)

Friday, December 23 - 9 am Royal Hours, 10 am Divine Liturgy
Saturday December 24 - 9 am Divine Liturgy, 6 pm Great Vespers, Artoklasia, and Festal Orthros
Sunday, December 25 - 9 am Divine Liturgy

Synaxis of the Theotokos

Sunday, December 25 - 6 pm Vespers
Monday, December 26 - 9 am Matins, 10 am Divine Liturgy

Circumcision of Christ and Feast of St Basil

Saturday December 31 - 6 pm Vespers & Artoklasia
followed by potluck refreshments and New Year's Eve Talent Show
Sunday, January 1 - 9 am Matins, 10 am Divine Liturgy

FR NOAH, FR JAMES, & FR HERMAN are available for hospital visits. If you or anyone you know is in the hospital and would like a visit, please call the church office.

PLEASE PARK ONLY IN DESIGNATED PARKING SPACES; OTHER AREAS MUST REMAIN FREE FOR EMERGENCY VEHICLE ACCESS.

AMPLE PARKING is always available for Church Services in lots just across Clearview Rd, thanks to our good neighbors at Solar Atmospheres. Thank you.

This Week:

Monday, Dec 12: ADVENT COMPLINE, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec 13: Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 11 a.m.

Wednesday, Dec 14: ADVENT PARAKLESIS, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Dec 15: DIVINE LITURGY, 10 a.m.

Friday, Dec 16: ADVENT PARAKLESIS, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Dec 17: Christmas Program Rehearsal, 4 p.m.
Adult Study - The Creed, 4:30 p.m.
VESPERS, 6 p.m. followed by confessions

Sunday, Dec 18: MATINS 8:45 a.m., LITURGY 10 a.m.
Coffee Hour, Sunday School, & Teens
Christmas Program (when announced)

OUTREACH COLLECTION:

Turkeys & Hams

WISDOM FROM FATHER B:

You must have a reason to say that.

Everyday Evangelist

"As the Father has sent me, so I send you." (Jn 20:21)

Ask questions, then listen - really listen.

ATTENDANCE: At Vespers on Sat Dec 3: 45 Divine Services on Sun, Dec 4: 161
OFFERINGS: Candles, \$280. Collections, \$170. Flowers, \$95. Youth, \$27.
BookShelf, \$40. Camp Schol, \$200. Christmas Cards, \$170. Missions, \$178.60
Needy, \$25. Pastoral Disc, \$25. Stewardship, \$9,967. Total received:
\$10,922.53

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY